

BUDGET ISSUE SUMMARY FORM

Budget Issue Title: Citizen Request to Spray Manholes and Private Property for Rats and Cockroaches

Department: Public Works

1. Issue Summary (briefly describe the budget issue):

At the December 7, 2004 City Council meeting, a City resident expressed concern with the presence of certain animal and insect pests in and around private property, and requested that the City re-implement its program to spray sewers to mitigate their proliferation. The current concern is primarily related to elimination of cockroaches and rats that the resident believes live in the sewer and storm systems. A second request was to spray private property in identified pest hiding places.

The City can not involve itself with the control of such pests, with the limited exception of cockroaches that may hide in or around water meter boxes, which are sprayed under very restricted conditions. Spraying for pests in sewers and storm lines has been eliminated for environmental reasons as per the City's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy and discharge requirements to the Water Pollution Control Plant and storm drainage channels. Products used to eliminate cockroaches are poisons prohibited from sewer and storm line systems that eventually flow to public water courses. Principally for this reason, Santa Clara County Vector Control District (SCCVCD) has stopped its own program.

Outreach efforts by Public Works staff can be undertaken to educate residents on pest control if Council chooses to budget for this issue. The SCCVCD already has in place such a program.

2. Is the budget issue a: PROJECT _____ OPERATING X

3. If the issue is operating, specify the change in service level(s) that would result (from what, to what). If the issue is a project, write N/A.

The City maintains the flow and operation of the sewers and storm lines. Pests in the system are isolated issues that are generally not inspected or removed. The use of poisons in these lines, manholes and inlets is not permitted for environmental reasons. Residents are encouraged to keep their property free

of pet food and droppings, trim bushes and ground cover, and control watering of lawns and gardens to minimize damp and dark areas.

Any questions regarding dealing with such pests should be directed to the Santa Clara County Vector Control District (SCCVCD) unless Council approves budget for outreach by Public Works staff. An estimate of \$20,000 would cover administration cost as well as distribution materials (i.e. letters, flyers, etc.) for residents.

4. **Note the issue's relationship to the appropriate general plan goal, policy, and/or action statement. (Briefly explain significant needs and expected benefits, noting possible outcome from postponement.)**

The City maintains a state-mandated "Integrated Pest Management Policy for City-Owned Facilities." This Integrated Pest Management (IPM) provides the basis for the approval of City use of any pesticides, herbicides, or any other efforts to control pests. The poisons used for rat and cockroach elimination are not allowed in or around facilities that will drain to water courses.

Also, City maintenance of private property, by entering private property to spray for any pests, is not permissible.

5. **Origin of issue: Council X (Councilmember Fowler)**
In response to request by resident at City Council meeting, to allow for addressing the issue.

6. **Projected cost (list rough annual cost of budget item):**

Operating Issue \$ 20,000 (Annual Operating Costs)

Capital/Project \$ _____ (Project Cost)

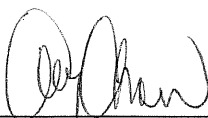
\$ _____ (Associated Annual Operating Costs)



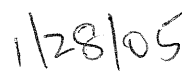
Department Director



Date



APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER



Date